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CLASSIFICATION ~~SECRET/CONTROL/US OFFICIALS~~COUNTRY Soviet Zone of Germany REPORTTO: Werneuchen Airfield

50X1-HUM

EVALUATION

DATE OF CONTENT

DATE OBTAINED PREPARED 8 March 1950

REFERENCES

PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

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REMARKS

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1. On 16 and 19 January 1950 Soviet Air Force officers' dependents with baggage and household utensils, were taken on trucks to the Werneuchen (N 53/V 06) railroad station to leave toward Berlin.

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2. Forty-seven twin-engine aircraft covered with tarpaulins were counted in front of the closed hangars of the field on 19 January 1950. Six more twin-engine planes practiced flying. Three of the planes with two hunch-shaped cabin canopies, the rear one being higher, made local flights but the other three planes with through cabin roofs made long distance flights. It was observed that one plane proceeded southwest, returned from the same direction 20 to 30 minutes later, flew over the field, then headed northeast and returned from that direction about 20 minutes later. Guide beam approach flights were probably practiced at the field.

3. Description of twin-engine low-wing monoplanes: Double rudder assembly, in-line engine, landing gear retracting rearward into engine cowling. Two slots for armaments recognized at underside of metal-covered nose. Antenna rod at front section of cockpit roof. Elevator assembly in slight dihedral, wings tapering. Hunch-shaped or through cabin roofs. Planes with through cabin roofs had dive brake set under wings between engine and wing tips. A ventral flap with glazed slot, probably for armaments, at bottom side of fuselage in line with trailing edge of wings.

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This description applies only to the operated planes which were operated on 19 January.

4. Two tank trucks, a fire truck, an ambulance, a truck and passenger car were standing at the take-off point. Flying did not stop at noon. A truck went twice between the take-off point and the billets to exchange the flying crews. The take-off direction was marked by red and white flags. A landing cross was laid. The operated planes had white propeller hubs and figures. The landings were well performed.
5. A radio truck with an antenna rod, from 8 to 10 meters high, was in the southwest section of the field. The radio station east of the field was occupied by an officer and three EM, but only during flying. The Werneuchen-East telephone exchange was occupied. Twelve young air force soldiers were drilling there.
6. Firing with carbines and machine guns was practiced on the east edge of the field throughout the day. The railroad spur track at the field was rusty. The dependents' billets were still fully occupied by Soviet Air Force families. There was strikingly little motor vehicle traffic toward the field. [] motor vehicle [] shuttled between the field and the town. Supply truck [] entered the field.

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[] Comment :

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a. The transfer of Soviet dependents was reported from several places in the Soviet Zone of Germany. Married officers are apparently exchanged for unmarried officers.

b. The type and number of aircraft observed at the field confirm the previously assumed occupation by component units of the III Bmr Corps. Two regiments are carried in Werneuchen. The model designation and the tactical employment of the two twin-engine aircraft types has not been determined. The observation that the planes have no plexiglass noses leads to the assumption that they are PL-3s. The slots on the underside of the nose are possibly for the fitting of armament.

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